



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/993,032	11/14/2001	Ying-Ming Liao	56709 (71987)	6488

21874 7590 08/25/2006

EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP
P.O. BOX 55874
BOSTON, MA 02205

EXAMINER

GRAHAM, CLEMENT B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3628

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/993,032

Applicant(s)

LIAO ET AL.

Examiner

Clement B. Graham

Art Unit

3628

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 November 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. Rejection under 35 U.S.C 102(e), Patent Application Publication or Patent to Another with Earlier Filing Date, in view of the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claim 1-6, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lee, et al (Hereinafter Lee U.S Patent 6, 401, 070).

As per claim 1, Lee discloses a method for processing an invoice of exported products, allowing associated data of products exported by a manufacturer to be immediately transmitted to a forwarder company and a custom broker so as to make exportation required documents; the method comprising the steps of establishing an exportation data file for exported products via the manufacturer.(see column 1 para 0010-0010 and column 2-3 para 0019-0032 and column 5-8 para 0050-0087)

converting the exportation data file into web page standard format; assigning the converted exportation data file with an invoice number, an invoice date and a pick-up number, so as to establish a corresponding invoice data file dedicated for the exported products; and publishing the invoice data file to a database server, wherein the database server is externally connected to a network communication system, so as to allow the forwarder company and the custom broker to retrieve the invoice data file published on the database server through the network communication system.(see column 1 para 0010-0010 and column 2-3 para 0019-0032 and column 5-8 para 0050-0087).

As per claim 2, Lee discloses wherein in the step (1), the exportation data file is established as a document file with associated data of the exported products, including a registration number of the manufacturer, a shipping date, an item quantity, an item

Art Unit: 3628

unit, a net weight, a total amount of price, a consignee address, a material number, a product quantity, a quantity unit and a unit package quantity.(see column 1 para 0010-0010 and column 2-3 para 0019-0032 and column 5-8 para 0050-0087).

As per claim 3, Lee discloses wherein in the step (2), the exportation data file is converted in format by an EDI (electronic data interchange) platform. .(see column 1 para 0010-0010 and column 2-3 para 0019-0032 and column 5-8 para 0050-0087).

As per claim 4, Lee discloses wherein in the step (4), the network communication system is Internet, and the database server is a website server. .(see column 1 para 0010-0010 and column 2-3 para 0019-0032 and column 5-8 para 0050-0087).

As per claim 5, Lee discloses a method for processing an invoice of exported products, allowing associated data of products exported by a manufacturer to be immediately transmitted to a forwarder company and a custom broker so as to make exportation required documents; the method comprising the steps of establishing an exportation data file for exported products via the manufacturer; converting the exportation data file into web page standard format via an EDI (electronic data interchange) platform.(see column 1 para 0010-0010 and column 2-3 para 0019-0032 and column 5-8 para 0050-0087)

assigning the exportation data file converted by the EDI platform with an invoice number, an invoice date and a pick-up number, so as to establish a corresponding invoice data file dedicated for the exported products; and publishing the invoice data file to a website server, so as to allow the forwarder company and the custom broker to browse the invoice data file published on the website server through Internet. (see column 1 para 0010-0010 and column 2-3 para 0019-0032 and column 5-8 para 0050-0087).

As per claim 6, Lee discloses a system for processing an invoice of exported products, allowing associated data of products exported by a manufacturer to be immediately transmitted to a forwarder company and a custom broker so as to make exportation required documents; the system comprising.

Art Unit: 3628

an exportation database for storing an exportation data file of exported products established by the manufacturer.(see column 1 para 0010-0010 and column 2-3 para 0019-0032 and column 5-8 para 0050-0087)

an EDI (electronic data interchange) platform for converting format of the exportation data file stored in the exportation database into web page standard format, and for assigning the converted exportation data file with an invoice number, an invoice date and a pick-up number, so as to establish a corresponding invoice data file.(see column 1 para 0010-0010 and column 2-3 para 0019-0032 and column 5-8 para 0050-0087)

an invoice database for storing the invoice data file established by the EDI platform, and a website server for publishing the invoice data file stored in the invoice database to the website server, so as to allow the forwarder company and the custom broker to browse the invoice data file published by the website server through Internet. .(see column 1 para 0010-0010 and column 2-3 para 0019-0032 and column 5-8 para 0050-0087).

Conclusion

3. The prior art of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicants disclosure.

Kadlec (US Patent 6, 212, 530) teaches method and apparatus based on relational database design techniques supporting modeling analysis and automatic hypertext generation for structured document collections.

Rebane (US 6, 405, 179 Patent) teaches system and method for data collection evaluation information generation and presentation.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clement B Graham whose telephone number is 703-305-1874. The examiner can normally be reached on 7am to 5pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hyung S. Sough can be reached on 703-308-0505. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-0040 for regular communications and 703-305-0040 for After Final communications.

Art Unit: 3628

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

CG

August 18, 2006


FRANTZY POINVIL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
Au 3628